

In the Abstract

Please substitute the following amended Abstract for the Abstract as currently pending (deleted matter is shown by strikethrough and added matter is shown by underlining):

Disclosed is a laser device for machining material, comprising a laser beam source ~~[(S)]~~ which supplies pulsed laser radiation ~~[(3)]~~, and a variable deflection unit ~~[(17)]~~ that introduces said laser radiation ~~[(3)]~~ into the material ~~[(1)]~~ at different, selectable points so as to create optical breakthroughs. The inventive laser device further comprises a pulse-selecting apparatus ~~[(15)]~~ which modifies selected laser pulses of the pulsed laser radiation ~~[(3)]~~ regarding at least one optical parameter in such a way that no more optical breakthroughs can be created using the modified laser pulses.